Extension of Food for Work Programme to Drought Hit Areas

3356. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended "Food for Work Programme" in the drought affected States;

(b) if so, the details of the extension programme, State-wise;

(c) the eligibility criteria for extension of the programme and for what period it has been extended;

(d) whether foodgrains distribution has been increased per worker; if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(e) the quantity of foodgrains supplied, State-wise for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Food for Work Programme has been extended upto 30th September, 2001 for all the notified districts of the States during period of natural calamity such as drought, floods, cyclone or earthquake etc. Under the programme, foodgrains are provided to the States free of cost as an additionality, the cost being borne by the Government of India. The cash component of the wage and material cost are to be met from the scheme under which the programme is being implemented. Under the scheme the State Government make payment of wages partly in kind (upto 5 kg. per manday) and partly in cash. The State Governments are free to calculate the cost of foodgrains paid in wages, at either BPL rates of APL rates or between these two rates. The eligibility criteria for employment has been relaxed so as to include both BPL and APL families. The State-wise breakup of foodgrains supplied free of cost under Food for Work Programme during the years 2000-01 and 2001-2002 is given in the Statement.

Statement

Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under Food for Work Programme in drought affected States (January, 2001 to Date)

(Allotted Free of Cost)

(in tonnes)

	Allotment (Upto 14.8.2001)			Offtake (Prov) (Upto 2.8.2001)		
	RICE	WHEAT	TOTAL	RICE	WHEAT	TOTAL
Andhra Pradesh	300000	0	300000	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	507000	0	507000	407000	0	407000
Gujarat	31590	116515	148105	19185	69621	88806
Himachal Pradesh	11549	0	11549	7286	0	7286
Karnataka	57460	42540	100000	0	0	0
Maharashtra	10000	40000	50000	5110	14368	19478
Madhya Pradesh	54424	158655	213079	39095	123846	162941
Orissa	150000	0	150000	131815	14617	146432
Rajasthan	0	739505	739505	0	477441	477441
TOTAL:	1122023	1097215	2219238	609491	699893	1309384

In case of Orissa Wheat Allocation of 20,000 Tonnes has been converted into Rice Allocation but 14617 Tonnes of lifting of wheat has been reported.

Transportation and Handling Charges for Wheat

3357. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handling and transportation charges per tonne/per kilometre of wheat is same all over the country;

(b) whether it is cheaper to do this work departmentally;

(c) whether the FCI has tried to privatize this activity during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?